Benefit to families/widows of security personnel

*235. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what benefits and facilities are at present given to widows and families of security personnel who lost their lives in action or otherwise;

(b) what is their number and cost to the exchequer; and

(c) what is being done to improve their plight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) As per the present policy, Next-Of-Kin of Central Para Military Forces personnel who die while on duty are entitled to ex-gratia payment and other pensionary benefits as under:—

		Ex-gratia Amount	Pensionary benefits to the widows/dependents
(i)	Death occurring due to accident in the course of performance of duties.	Rs. 5 Lakhs	Extra Ordinary Pension equal to 60% of last drawn basic pay by the deceased employee subject to a minimum of Rs. 2,500/- and all other service benefits like GPF, CGEGIS, Leave encashment, DCRG as admissible.
(ii)	Death occurring in the course of performance of duties attrib-utable to act of violence by terrorists, ami social elements etc.,	Rs. 5 Lakhs	Liberalised Pensionary Award (LPA) equal to last pay drawn by the deceased employee and all other pensionary benefits like GPF, CGESIS, leave encash-ment, OCR Gas admissible.
(iii)	Death occurring (a) enemy action international war or border skirmishes and (b) action against militants, terrorists, extremists etc.	Rs. 7.5 Lakhs	

The number of personnel of para military forces killed during the period 1999-2001 (till 15th November 2001) are as under

YEAR	1999	2000	2001 (till 15/11/2001)
Number of personnel Killed	191	195	305

Central Government releases grant to pay compensation to the Next of Kin at the rate of Rs. 7.5 lakhs/5.00 lakhs as the case may be. The grants released to the para military forces for this purpose during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 are as under:—

YEAR	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (till 15/11 2001)
Grants released	20.39 Crores	21.79 Crores	8.65 Crores

Apart from financial benefits as stated above, dependents are also given compassionate appointments depending upon their eligibility and availability of vacancies. Besides, each force has its own contributory welfare schemes whereunder facilities like free education, scholarships, financial assistance for marriage of daughter etc. are also provided. In the matter of allotment of Retail outlets/Dealers/LPG Distributors/SKO-LDO Dealers, widows/dependents of para military personnel killea in action are being accorded priority,.

US promise to Initiate action against Terrorism in Second Phase in J & K

† *236. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government have promised to India to initiate action against terrorism in second phase in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the outlines of this second phase of the move and by when it is likely to be started?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.